

November, 1977

Information from the Executive

SIXTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DENTISTRY FOR CHILDREN, San Francisco, 30th July - 4th August, 1977.

Dr. John Keys was the A.S.D.C.'s official representative at the meeting of I.A.D.C. held at the St. Francis Hotel and the following notes have been abstracted from the official report he furnished to the Executive on his return.

The first official function was the Council Meeting which took place in the St. Francis Hotel. All 23 member countries were represented. All speeches were translated into both French and English.

Reports from the President, Secretary, Treasurer and Editor were read and discussed intensely. It was suggested that subscriptions be changed to dollars and the money deposited in Swiss Francs. The Incoming Committee was instructed to consider the matter and to bring their recommendations concerning these proposals to the next meeting in 1979.

The election of office bearers went smoothly, all positions being elected unanimously. The new honorary office bearers are:-

President - Dr. H. Sarnat, President-elect - Dr. M.M. Album, Secretary - Prof. G. Winter, Journal Editor - Dr. L. Silverstone, Editorial Committee. Editor to co-opt not less than 3 members, no two of whom to be from the same country.

TURKEY, BRAZIL, COSTA RICO and THE DEUTSCHLAND DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (OF EAST GERMANY) applied for, and were granted membership of the I.A.D.C.

The next matter was the adoption of a revised Constitution, and this item produced very frustrating and unrewarding discussion which after two hours led to the decision that the translation from the original Belgium to French and then to English had caused confusion and that a new consistent translation should be distributed to each member country for comment, well before the next meeting. Then, 60 days before that meeting each member country would be served with the amended Constitution on which they would be expected to vote.

The Editor of the I.A.D.C. Journal reported that the journal was no longer a liability and the standard of the articles was high, although he had had no response to his request to all

member countries for contributions. He repeated this request.

The Society's new emblem was displayed. It consisted of a primary molar tooth over a map of the world enclosed in a shield.

The venue for the 7th International Symposium (1979) on Child Dental Health was discussed. There was some difficulty, as it had been intended to hold the meeting in Bucharest, Romania, but difficulties had arisen for visas for all member countries. The venue had been changed to Budapest, Hungary. It was also agreed to hold the 1981 meeting in Zurich.

At this point Dr. Keys was able to propose that the 1983 meeting could be held in Australia. A vote resulted in unanimous support for Australia as the venue for the 1983 meeting.

General Business resulted in a motion to increase secretarial expenses to \$5t.500 per annum, which was eventually accepted and the meeting closed.

Dr. Keys has also made available the 'Abstracts of the Scientific Presentations' with his personal comments -

- "1. The lectures were mostly not clinically orientated and in my opinion were more suitable for an I.A.D.R. meeting.
 2. Scandinavian countries produced the best structured and most informative lecturettes.
 3. The Japanese photography and films were superb.
 4. The Latin-American countries showed clearly how they are "up against it" dentally even with their new 6-hour trained hygienists.
 5. Countries that have no pre-school preventive schemes are losing the battle against dental disease - especially Britain.
 6. The American Dental Association is cognisant of having its dental scope eroded away and is frightened of being socialized. Most of the U.S.A. material when analysed critically was in general disappointing. Dr. Leon Silverstone was the star lecturer of the Congress."
- Dr. Keys states in conclusion "I would like to thank the A.S.D.C. for granting me the

privilege of representing it in 1977 and I trust that this report will give a clear overview of a most rewarding personal experience".

I.A.D.C. MEETING 1983 - AUSTRALIA

Now that I.A.D.C. has decided to hold its 1983 meeting in Australia, the Council will need to decide on the venue for the meeting and also, in discussion with I.A.D.C., to make a decision on a most appropriate time for the meeting. Council will set-up a special committee to consider these details and to liaise with the Secretariat of I.A.D.C.

A.S.D.C. OFFICE BEARERS 1977-79

Following the changes in the Constitution which were decided at the special meeting in Brisbane, May 20th, 1977, the Executive's first duty was to call for nominations from the branches to form the newly constituted Council of the Society. The following councillors were nominated by their branches:-

Queensland	-	Dr. J.C. Keys
South Australia	-	Dr. K.R. Allen
Tasmania	-	Dr. F. Wimmer
Victoria	-	Dr. A. Telford
Western Australia	-	Dr. A. Devlin

When the Council had been formed, the next step was to undertake an election for the officers of the Association in accordance with the Constitution and, in the circumstances, it was necessary for this to be carried by postal ballot. The ballot was arranged without difficulty but it took sometime before all voting papers were returned. When all the envelopes containing the voting papers had been returned, Prof. Tasman Brown, the Dean of the Faculty (Adelaide) assisted by Dr. Grant Townsend were invited to act as scrutineers and to inform Dr. Verco and me of the results. The following were declared elected as officers of the Society for the ensuing period:

President	-	Dr. J.C. Keys
Vice-President	-	Dr. K.R. Allen
Secretary/Treasurer	-	Dr. A. Devlin

Congratulations to all who were nominated as councillors as well as to those who have been elected to serve the Society as its officers for the coming year.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DENTISTRY FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Since the last newsletter, we have learned the Association is holding a symposium in London, September 12th-15th, 1978. Dr. Roger Hall is a member of the Council of this important international body and we extend to him our warmest congratulations. No doubt Roger will be happy to supply further details of the meeting to those who are interested and may be able to attend.

RECOGNITION OF PAEDODONTICS AS A SPECIALTY

A.S.D.C. has formally requested the Australian Dental Association to recognize paedodontics in its list of officially recognized specialties. The Society has been informed that its application has been referred to the Association's Education Committee which will make a recommendation to the Federal Executive. Further news on this matter cannot be expected for some months.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Positive moves are afoot to form a New South Wales branch. It is understood a preliminary meeting was held on November 22nd, and that an inaugural meeting (which John Keys has been invited to attend) will be held on January 20th, 1978. Especial thanks are due to Tony Mackay who has been the instigator of these meetings. All the other branches will wish every success to those involved.

West Australian Branch

The Branch has enjoyed a most fruitful year. At the beginning of the year the membership was divided into three study groups, which then looked at separate subjects. The first group considered "psychological and sociological factors as they affect behaviour in the dental chair". The second group presented "an up-to-date look at preventive aids". The third group looked at "fissure sealants and changes in topical fluoride methods".

The first group invited Mrs. Ailsa-Smith, a clinical psychologist, who administers one of Perth's Institutions for Child Offenders to attend and chair the discussion. The second group examining preventive aids included a section on market trends which revealed some interesting facts about public preferences - in particular with regard to toothbrush and dentifrices selection. The third group found that the general response to fissure-sealants was guarded.

The Annual General Meeting was held in conjunction with the local branch of the Australian Society for the Advancement of Anaesthesia and Sedation in Dentistry. After a pleasant buffet meal the elections were held and the outgoing executive was re-elected to office with Dr. Bill Brogan as President. The 1978 programme was considered and it is probable that the first project will be on Congenital Deformities, including a detailed study of treatment possibilities for such cases. The joint meeting of the two societies was then addressed by Dr. Franz Pribil of the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children. He spoke on "Premedication for Children".

Alistair Devlin

South Australian Branch

The Branch devoted two meetings to the subject of diet and nutrition for which we were fortunate enough to have Dr. Alan Stewart, Senior Lecturer in Nutrition, The Flinders Medical School, to give well-illustrated and concise lectures on food and its relation to nutrition.

During the year Dr. Elizabeth Fanning has released a booklet entitled "Party Fun". The publication not only contains a number of practical ideas for children's parties, but also a most beneficial collection of ideas for different foods. Proceeds of the sale of the booklet are in aid of the Oral School, Gilberton, S.A. In June the Annual Meeting was held and the office bearers elected as follows:

President	- Dr. John Burrows
Vice-President	- Dr. Clive Durney
Hon. Sec/Treasurer	- Dr. Joe Verco
Federal Councillor	- Dr. Kevin Allen

(It has been learned subsequently that Kevin Allen was elected Vice-President of the Federal body and the Branch wishes him well in this capacity for the next two years).

Dr. Kevin Allen and Dr. Clive Durney both attended the meeting of the International Association of Dentistry for Children held in San Francisco and each has reported on different aspects of that meeting. Following his return, Dr. Allen presented to the branch the paper which he presented in San Francisco in which he outlined the various treatments carried out in his preventive practice over an eight year period in terms of a percentage of gross income.

In October, Dr. Jeffrey Wright spoke to the branch on two topics. A short presentation dealt with a clinically acceptable product "Terra-Cortrel" which he has used as an alternative to Ledermix paste. The product is apparently very similar in composition to Ledermix paste and has the advantage of costing \$4 per 15 gm tube, compared with Ledermix at \$12 per 5 gm tube. Dr. Wright also described some time he had spent visiting the School Dental Service in Tonga. He noted its lack of a preventive programme and the deficiency of anyone to service equipment requiring low maintenance. He expressed his own views concerning possible and desirable changes which could be made provided that the dental staff involved could be persuaded that a preventive programme would work.

The meetings for 1978 are scheduled for the last Monday of the month in February, April, June, August and October, and will be held in the University of Adelaide Club.

It has been suggested that the October meeting might take the form of a two-day session held in the Barossa Valley or another suitable venue; it is also suggested that the topics at that meeting might not be devoted entirely to Dentistry and thus would provide a wider interest. If anyone from another State is interested they may wish to contact Dr. Joe Verco.

At its last meeting, the Branch noted that Professor Max Horsnell would retire from the University at the end of 1977. It praised him for his work for the Society of which he is now the Immediate Past-President as well as for his contribution as Head of the Department of Dental Health, University of Adelaide.

Tasmanian Branch

The Annual Meeting of the branch was held in Launceston on June 25. Fourteen members attended. Salient points arising out of the meeting were an overwhelming consensus of opinion that dental therapists, due to the nature of their work, do form an integral part of children's dentistry. The members felt that dental therapists should be accorded Associate Membership of the branch and be allowed to attend selected meetings by invitation.

It was resolved that membership of the branch be strictly restricted to financial members of the A.D.A.

Other matters of interest arising out of the meeting was the desire of the members to hold more Scientific Meetings, at least one every two months.

It was decided that the Tasmanian Branch would be in favour of conducting a clinical meeting of A.S.D.C. in conjunction with the Convention of the A.D.A. to be held in Hobart in 1980. The A.D.A.'s attitude to the proposal has been sought prior to approaching the Federal Executive of the A.S.D.C.

Office bearers for 1977/78 are:

President	- Dr. Frank Wimmer
Vice-President	- Dr. Dennis Badger
Sec/Treasurer	- Dr. Felix Goldschmeid
Branch Council	
Members	- Dr. Allen Nixon
	- Dr. Paul Crowe
Federal Councillor	- Dr. Frank Wimmer

The branch looks forward to a stimulating and eventful year.

Felix Goldschmeid

Victorian Branch

Since the April newsletter we have had a dinner meeting in May and a weekend seminar on "Growth and Development of the Child" in June.

At the May meeting we had as our guest lecturer Dr. Ian Watson, an Orthodontist in private practice in Adelaide. His excellent talk dealt with "oral habits" and was followed by an interesting discussion on a "post-script" where Ian gave an illustrated description of the GAL-GATS technique of mandibular block.

The Growth and Development seminar was very popular and highly successful. Dr. Darryle Bowden of the Child Growth Unit, Anatomy School, University of Melbourne and a member of our Society gave an excellent presentation of the fascinating detailed work of the unit and its practical implications. The profits from this weekend seminar were donated to the Child Growth Unit.

Dr. Arthur Telford, a past-President of the branch was elected as our State Councillor.

On 15th September, we plan to have another dinner meeting when Mr. John McArdle, Assistant Manager of Medibank, will be our guest speaker. We shall also have reports from various members of the conferences which they have attended recently. Our A.G.M. will be on Friday, November 18th.

We now have a very enthusiastic education committee which has set the following dates for meetings:

Evening Meetings -- March 2; May 4; July 6;
Sept. 7; Nov 2.

All day meetings -- June 26 & September 25

If you wish to attend please contact Dr. Jackie McLeod, Sec/Treasurer, C/- Dental Clinic, Queen Victoria Hospital, 172 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, 3000.

(Editorial note - Officers for 1978

President	- Jackie McLeod
Vice-President	- Pamela Daniel
Secretary	- John Wild
I.P. President	- John Brownbill
Councillor	- Arthur Telford)

Queensland Branch

Since the Convention the branch has discussed various topics including Child Abuse, the Role of Dentists in the Queensland School Dental Service, and Preventive Measures practised in a suburban practice.

Mr. Robert Plummer, Director of Children's Services, in addition to outlining the general scope of the activities of his department, discussed the topic of child abuse. As it appears that half the number of physically abused children had facial or head injuries it was felt that the low incidence of reporting by dentists could be related to a low level of awareness. Questions which arose include: where to report e.g. police, children's services department, hospitals, health departments etc. and whether reporting should be mandatory. This latter might have an unfortunate side effect that patients might avoid seeking dental treatment. The speaker

particularly indicated that many parents guilty of child abuse, made a "cry to help" which ought to be recognized by dentists.

The talk on "The Role of the School Dental Officer" stressed the importance of his leadership in the dental team, and his being the person responsible for the organization and management of personnel, assessment and control of quantity and quality of treatment performed by his auxiliaries and, most importantly, advising and simulating his staff, especially in the preventive field.

At another meeting, one of our members outlined the preventive measures he has developed in his practice over a long period of time, the success he has had and their effect on his practice.

Future planned activities include Eric Tolmie addressing the Queensland Branch of the A.D.A. at its "clinic day" and the mounting of a static display at the A.D.A. Jubilee Convention in Melbourne in February 1978. One of our General Meetings will be held in Toowoomba next year on 23-24 September.

Robin Smith

In the Newsletter, I wish to take the opportunity to thank Joe Verco for his excellent work as Secretary/Treasurer during the 1976/77 period. The Society is greatly in his debt for a considerable amount of hard work. In addition I want to thank the Executive generally for its help and support. I can also wish all members of the Society a very Happy Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Max Horsnell
Immediate Past President

LATE ENTRIES

1. There will be a meeting of the Federal Council of the Society in Melbourne on Wednesday, February 15th, 1978.
2. The President of the Australian Society of Endodontology and his Executive have extended an invitation to members of A.S.D.C. to attend the pre-Congress Meeting, Melbourne . Thursday 8th & Friday 9th Feb., when Dr. Jens Andreason will be the joint lecturer. A.S.D.C. members can enrol for the same fee as A.S.E. members. (For further details please consult with branch secretaries).